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> P. Joseph Grindstaff. Director

State Agencies

The Resources Agency:

Department of Water Resources

Department of Fish and Game

Delta Protection Commission

Department of Conservation

San Francisco Bay Conservation and **DevelopmentCommission**

California State Parks

The Reclamation Board

California Environmental Protection Agency:

Stale Water Resources Control Board

California Department of Fmd and Agriculture

> California Department of Health Services

Federal Agencies

Department of the Interior:

Bureau of Reclamation

Fish and Wildlife Service

Geological Survey

Bureau of Land Management

US Army Corps of Engineers

Environmental Protection Agency

Department of Agriculture:

Forest Service

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Department of Commerce:

National Marine Fisheries Service

Western Area Power Administration

March 10,2008

Pamela Creedon **Executive Officer** Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board 11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Subject: Staff Report for March 5,2008 Central Valley Water **Board Meeting on Actions to Protect Beneficial Uses** of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

Dear Ms. Creedon:

We commend the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB) for its leadership in addressing Delta water quality issues in a coordinated and cohesive way. Actions involving the CVRWQCB and SWRCB are an important part of the CALFED Record of Decision and progress has been made on all of them. However, much still remains to be done. The CVRWQCB continues to work on many of the Delta's water quality problems including mercury contamination, low dissolved oxygen in the Stockton ship channel, San Joaquin Valley salinity, and development of a Central Valley Drinking Water Policy. The staff report rightfully recognizes that work on these issues must continue.

The development of collective Water Boards Delta strategies is taking place at an exciting but challenging time.

Specific Comments on "New Actions" in the Staff Report

Comprehensive Regional Monitoring Program – This will take the combined effort of all of the agencies and organizations involved including the IEP, CALFED agencies, CALFED Science Program, reclamation districts, Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program coalitions, watershed groups, municipalities, DWR, DFG, USBR, USGS, and the universities.

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Impact of Ammonia, other Toxics and other Emerging Contaminants - This is emerging as an important issue because of the POD, but points to the larger issue of the impact of wastewater discharges on the Delta. We encourage the CVRWQCB to take a more holistic look at wastewater discharges including the potential impacts of pathogens, organic carbon, and emerging contaminants. These water quality issues should also be considered with respect to possible future changes in Delta conveyance.

We thank and commend the CVRWQCB staff for their contributions to CALFED, the Delta Vision process, and other Delta planning efforts to date and encourage them to be even more engaged in these processes in the future. The expertise of CVRWQCB staff will be invaluable as the various efforts to shape the future of the Delta unfold.

Sincerely.

Joe Grindstaff,

Director, California Bay-Deltá Authority Deputy Secretary, Resources Agency

cc: Karl E. Longley, Chair

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

Karen Larsen

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board